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Application No. 10/779,674
Amendment dated January 25, 2007
After Final Office Action of September 25, 2006

Docket No.: 0941-0918P

REMARKS

Claims 1-23 are now present in this application.

Claims 1,3, 7, 12, 14, 18 and 22 have been amended, claims 8 and 19 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer, and claim 23 has been presented. Reconsideration of the application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

Amendments to the Claims

Support for the foregoing amendments to claims 1, 3, 7, 12, 14, 18 and 22 can be found in original Figs. 5b and 6. Support for newly presented claim 23 can be found on page 4, lines 6-7, for example. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that the foregoing amendments do not contain new matter.

Rejection under 35 USC 103

Claims 1-6, 9, 12-17 and 20 stand rejected under 35 USC 103 as being unpatentable over the Applicant's Admitted Prior Art (AAPA) in view of Watanabe et al., Japanese document 08205450A. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claims 7-8 and 18-19 stand rejected under 35 USC 103 as being unpatentable over the Applicant's Admitted Prior Art in view of Watanabe et al., and further in view of Cutsforth et al., U.S. Patent 6,652,360. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claims 10-11 and 21-22 stand rejected under 35 USC 103 as being unpatentable over the Applicant's Admitted Prior Art in view of Watanabe et al., and further in view of Yasumoto et al., U.S. Patent 4,959,571. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

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Independent claims 1 and 12 recite a fan housing comprising a main body, a first section, a second section, a fixing portion, and a fastening structure. A gap is formed between the first and second sections. *The fastening structure has a part with a profile corresponding to that of the gap for positioning the part in the gap.*

AAPA discloses a fan in a system having a main body 31 and through holes 33. A screw 37 passes the through hole and a hole disposed on the system frame 36 to engage with a nut 38. *AAPA, however, fails to teach or suggest a gap and a fixing portion formed therein.*

Watanabe discloses a housing 16 with a gap 35. A nut 22 is disposed in the gap 35. Referring to 4b, the nut 22 is deep in the gap 35, and the nut 22 does not fill up the gap 35, causing difficult alignment of the screw 21. In other words, the nut 22 and the gap 35 *do not have substantially the same profile.*

The prior art utilized by the Examiner fails to teach or suggest a fastening structure having a part with a profile corresponding to that of the gap for positioning the part in the gap, as is set forth in independent claims 1 and 12 of the present application. The secondary references to Cutsforth and Yasumoto fail to overcome this deficiency.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the prior art utilized by the Examiner fails to teach or suggest the fan housing and assembly of independent claims 1 and 12, respectively, as well as their dependent claims. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the 35 USC 103 rejection are respectfully requested.

Conclusion

Favorable reconsideration and an early Notice of Allowance are earnestly solicited.

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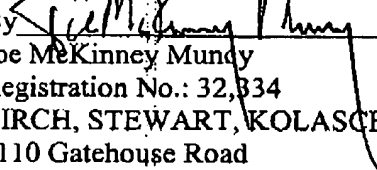
Because the additional prior art cited by the Examiner has been included merely to show the state of the prior art and has not been utilized to reject the claims, no further comments concerning these documents are considered necessary at this time.

In the event that any outstanding matters remain in this application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at (703) 205-8000 in the Washington, D.C. area.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Dated: January 25, 2007

Respectfully submitted,

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